



March 8, 2019

TO: Senator Michael Dembrow, Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction
Representative Karin Power, Co-Chair, Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction
Senator Cliff Bentz, Co-Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction Representative
David Brock Smith, Co-Vice Chair, Joint Committee on Carbon Reduction

FROM: Kyle Petrocine, Matt King, Wallowa Resources Community Solutions Inc.

SUBJECT: Support for HB 2020

Wallowa Resources Community Solutions Inc. (WRCSI) is writing in support of HB 2020, which is a practical and effective mechanism to immediately address the climate crisis while providing substantial investments for the clean energy sector, rural businesses, and our state's natural and working lands.

WRCSI drives rural economic development through small scale distributed clean energy project development. These clean energy projects save money for rural small businesses and residents, keep energy dollars circulating locally, contribute to strong independent and resilient rural communities and reduce carbon footprint. We have found that when you maximize the use and efficiency of our local renewable resources, it is a win for rural businesses, it is a win for rural communities and it is a win for the environment for which we rely on.

Vibrant rural communities are essential for the health and prosperity of Oregon as a whole. The stewards of our vast working lands are the rural communities whose way of life depends on these landscapes, while the health of our working lands is vital to all Oregonians access to clean water, air, food and fiber, as well as recreation. Investments in rural communities could support work such as putting water back in stream and creating carbon free energy by modernizing irrigation infrastructure and adding micro-hydropower production, facilitating forest restoration to mitigate the risk of catastrophic wildfire by converting fossil fuel heating systems to regionally sourced woody biomass heat and using small diameter trees to manufacture value added products, and creating equity in the energy sector by building rooftop solar projects for low-to-moderate income housing tenants.

We urge the legislature to pass HB 2020 as a sensible and balanced approach to combating our climate crisis and transitioning to a robust clean energy economy. In addition, we emphatically ask the legislation to include **dedicated reinvestment allocations for rural communities and natural working lands** in order to ensure certainty and meaningful benefits and to drive equity in the energy sector for all Oregonians

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to a smart and resilient clean energy future.

Sincerely,

Two handwritten signatures in black ink are shown on a light gray background. The signature on the left is more stylized and appears to be "Kyle Petrocine". The signature on the right is more cursive and appears to be "Matt King".

Kyle Petrocine & Matt King



WR COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS INC. (WRCSI)

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